(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 1 July 2004 (01.07.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/054764 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷:

B26D 7/18

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/NL2003/000863

- (22) International Filing Date: 4 December 2003 (04.12.2003)
- (25) Filing Language:

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 1022122

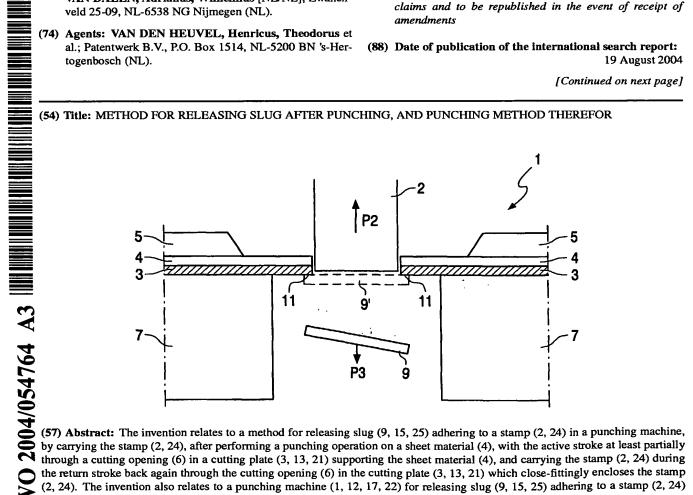
10 December 2002 (10.12.2002) NL

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- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments



the return stroke back again through the cutting opening (6) in the cutting plate (3, 13, 21) which close-fittingly encloses the stamp (2, 24). The invention also relates to a punching machine (1, 12, 17, 22) for releasing slug (9, 15, 25) adhering to a stamp (2, 24) according this method.



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



PCT/NL 03/00863 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B26D7/18 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B26D Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to daim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° 1,3-10, X EP 1 066 932 A (UHT CORP) 12-14, 10 January 2001 (2001-01-10) 16,17 paragraphs '0002! - '0004!, '0009! -'0015!, '0032!; figure 8 X PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1,8 vol. 2000, no. 03, 30 March 2000 (2000-03-30) & JP 11 333791 A (NGK SPARK PLUG CO LTD), 7 December 1999 (1999-12-07) abstract -/--Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance Invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is clied to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or nents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filling date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the International search Date of mailing of the international search report 2 July 2004 12/07/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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